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*ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA ONLY

October 17, 1994

VIA TELECOPY AND CERTIFIED MAIL
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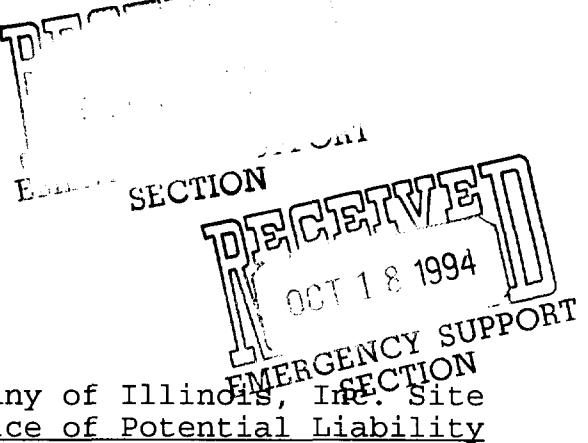
Ms. Linda Beasley
Enforcement Specialist
U.S. EPA - Region V
Emergency Support Section HSE-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Re: Conservation Chemical Company of Illinois, Inc. Site
Gary, Indiana, General Notice of Potential Liability

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Our client, Chicago Steel & Pickling Co., is in receipt of the United States Environmental Protection Agency's ("U.S. EPA") September 28, 1994 letter concerning the referenced matter. The U.S. EPA had requested that Chicago Steel advise as to whether it was willing to perform or finance certain activities at the referenced site and to reimburse the Agency for its past costs.

Chicago Steel and Pickling Co. does not admit any facts alleged by the U.S. EPA, nor does it admit that it is a potentially responsible party at the referenced site. Without waiving any rights or defenses it may have under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, or otherwise, Chicago Steel & Pickling Co. hereby informs the U.S. EPA that it is willing to engage in discussions with the U.S. EPA and potentially responsible parties concerning the possibility of jointly performing the activities described in the U.S. EPA's September 28 letter through the entry of an appropriate administrative consent order.



HOLLEB & COFF
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Ms. Linda Beasley
October 17, 1994
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Please also be advised that the Agency should direct all future communication concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,


Richard G. Bernet

RGB/sjb

HOLLEB & COFF

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BY MESSENGER